

POLICY ON DUES RELIEF

In accordance with By-law 10.2, this policy establishes the principles and terms under which members of the Association may apply for dues relief. The goal of this policy is to ensure fairness and consistency in the application process while supporting members facing financial or personal hardships.

1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR DUES RELIEF

Members may apply for dues relief if they meet one or more of the following criteria, subject to the conditions outlined below:

A. UNEMPLOYMENT

- The applicant must be fully unemployed, meaning they are not engaged in any form of employment, whether in Manitoba or elsewhere.
- Underemployment (i.e., working part-time or earning below a certain threshold) does not qualify for dues relief.
- The applicant may only apply for dues relief after three months of continuous unemployment.

B. ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

- Members who are unable to engage in the practice of professional engineering and/or geoscience due to illness or disability may apply for dues relief.
- If applying for dues relief beyond one year (i.e., a second application), the applicant must provide a doctor's note confirming their continued inability to work due to illness or disability.

C. PARENTAL LEAVE

- Members on parental leave who are not engaging in professional practice may apply for dues relief.

D. POST-GRADUATE STUDY

- Members enrolled full-time in a post-graduate university program relevant to professional engineering and/or geoscience may apply for dues relief.

E. OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES

- Members experiencing other circumstances deemed appropriate by council may apply for dues relief. Approval is at the sole discretion of council, based on evidence provided by the applicant.

2. TERMS OF DUES RELIEF

A. REDUCTION OF DUES

- All approved applications will result in a 50% reduction of annual dues payable to the association.
- No option for full waiver or deferment of dues is available under this policy.

B. MAXIMUM DURATION

- Dues relief may be granted for a maximum cumulative period of six years over the course of a member's lifetime.

3. APPLICATION PROCESS

A. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Members seeking dues relief must submit a written application to the registrar, including:

1. Evidence supporting their eligibility (e.g., proof of unemployment, enrollment confirmation from an academic institution, parental leave documentation, etc.).
2. For illness or disability-related applications beyond one year, a doctor's note confirming ongoing inability to work must be provided.

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Applications will be reviewed by the Registrar in accordance with this policy and By-law 10.2. The Registrar has the right to request additional information or documentation from applicants as needed. If no additional information is required, applications will be approved within 14 days.

4. POLICY REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

This policy will be reviewed periodically by council to ensure alignment with By-law 10.2 and any changes in organizational priorities or member needs.

By implementing this policy, the association seeks to balance compassion for members facing hardships with its responsibility to maintain financial sustainability and uphold professional standards.